The Wittenberg Saturday Science Program

Presents:

What the Frack?  Groundwater Flow and the Study of Hydrogeology

With Dr. John B. Ritter

Groundwater is one of our region’s greatest natural resources.  Aquifers in this area of Ohio have some of the greatest yields in the U.S., producing in excess of 1000 gallons per minute sustainably.  Unfortunately, the same geologic properties that produce such high yields also cause their potential for pollution to be extremely high.  Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, of the subsurface, one of the most contentious issues in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and New York right now, is a potential source of pollution but one that has not been studied adequately.  In this session of Science Saturday, we will focus on groundwater flow and the controls on it, including permeability, porosity, and hydraulic gradient.  We will use Darcy flow tubes to model groundwater flow and then apply the model to groundwater flow on campus.

Saturday, September 10, 2011

10:00 AM - 12:00 noon

Main Atrium

Barbara Deer Kuss Science Center

Wittenberg University

Please register at <http://www.wittenberg.edu/science-outreach>. Directions and more information can be found on the website.